

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 00683 290939Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 /065 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6249
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0683

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY
SUBJECT: U.S. EMISSARY ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION

1. FRIDAY EVENING (JANUARY 28), MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER HANDLING OF PROJECT TO SEND U.S. EMISSARY TO ANKARA. I ASKED WHEN HE HAD LAST HEARD FROM AMBASSADOR ESENBEL ON THIS SUBJECT AND ELEKDAG INDICATED THIS HAD NOT BEEN FOR SEVERAL DAYS. HE HAD SENT ESENBEL'S EARLIER REPORTING CABLES ON THIS SUBJECT TO BOTH FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL (WHO IS NOW OUT OF THE COUNTRY) AND TO PRIMIN DEMIREL (WHO IS OUT OF THE CITY), BUT HAD RECEIVED NO REACTION FROM EITHER OF THESE OFFICIALS. NOTING THE VERY CONSIDERABLE PRESS SPECULATION WHICH WAS GOING ON CONCERNING U.S. INITIATIVE, ELEKDAG EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT IT HAD NOT YET BEEN DIRECTLY DISCUSSED WITH THE GOT.

2. I SAID THAT IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY CLIFFORD MIGHT WELL BE THE EMISSARY THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HAD IN MIND (SECRETARY CLIFFORD'S NAME WAS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANKARA 00683 290939Z

MENTIONED IN NEWS BROADCASTS HERE EARLIER IN THE DAY), BUT I CAUTIONED THAT THIS WAS NOT YET OFFICIAL. I ADDED THAT IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT NEITHER THE DATES NOR THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN EMISSARY TRIP HAD BEEN DECIDED UPON. NOR DID I THINK IT WAS YET SETTLED WHEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TRIP WOULD BE MADE. PERHAPS THIS LATTER MIGHT BE DONE THIS COMING WEEK, I SPECULATED, BUT I EMPHASIZED I REALLY

DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW. CERTAINLY U.S. OFFICIALS WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH THE GOT BEFORE ANY OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE.

3. AS ELEKDAG WAS OBVIOUSLY UNEASY ABOUT THIS SUBJECT, I ASKED WHETHER HE HAD ANY RESERVATIONS ABOUT A U.S. INITIATIVE OF THIS KIND. HE SAID THAT PERSONALLY HE DID NOT RPT NOT. ON THE CONTRARY, HE WELCOMED IT. AS FOR DEMIREL AND CAGLAYANGIL, "WELL, THEIR THINKING IS CENTERED ENTIRELY ON THE NEXT ELECTION", HE SAID, AND HIS VOICE THEN TRAILED OFF. I COUNTERED BY ASKING WHETHER HE REALLY THOUGHT THERE WAS ANY CHANCE THAT THE PRESENT JUSTICE PARTY LEADERSHIP OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD REJECT OR RESIST THE SENDING OF A U.S. EMISSARY. AFTER A PAUSE, ELEKDAG SAID HE DID NOT RPT NOT THINK SO PROVIDED THAT PRIOR TO AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT NORMAL DIPLOMATIC COURTESIES WERE OBSERVED, IN THE WAY OF A TIMELY, PRIVATE EXPLANATION OF THE TRIP TO THE GOT LEADERSHIP, AND PROVIDED ALSO THAT THE PUBLIC HANDLING OF THE TRIP DID NOT LINK THE FUTURE OF U.S.-TURK BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE CYPRUS SITUATION.

4. WITH THE MENTION OF CYPRUS, OUR CONVERSATION TURNED TO THE MAKARIOS-DENKTASH MEETING WITH MY EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THE PREVIOUS DAY'S SESSION BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS MIGHT JUST BE THE BEGINNING OF NEW AND MORE PROMISING ERA FOR THAT TROUBLED ISLAND. ELEKDAG SAID HE SHARED THIS HOPE, BUT HE THEN WENT ON TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER MAKARIOS'S PUBLIC REFERENCE TO THE DENKTASH 32.8 PERCENT TERRITORIAL COMMENT. HE SAID THIS WAS A TWISTED VERSION OF WHAT DENKTASH HAD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ANKARA 00683 290939Z

SAID. ELEKDAG ALLEGED THAT IT WAS DONE DELIBERATELY BY MAKARIOS TO MAKE SERIOUS TROUBLE FOR DENKTASH WITH BOTH HIS OWN CONSTITUENCY IN CYPRUS AND "WITH CERTAIN QUARTERS IN ANKARA", I.E., DEP PRIMIN ERBAKAN AND HIS PARTY (WHO ARE KNOWN TO BE PARTICULARLY UNYIELDING AND UNHELPFUL ON CYPRUS MATTERS). "UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T THINK NOW WE CAN HOLD BACK ERBAKAN FROM MAKING A STATEMENT," ELEKDAG SAID.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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